

TO: Zone 1/1A Advisory Committee

FROM: County Staff

DATE: June 18, 2024

SUBJECT: Ongoing Updates

a) Storm Response Efforts

Arroyo Grande Creek Channel Emergency Levee Rehabilitation Phase 2 Project

The District completed construction of its Phase 2A project in December 2023. The project consisted of re-grading of the South Levee outer slopes and repair of approximately 3,000 square yards of turf reinforcing mat (TRM) from Creek Road to just downstream of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) bridge.

The BOS awarded a contract to Odin Environmental Services for construction of the Phase 2B construction project on January 9, 2023. The scope of this project is construction of four hydraulic barrier walls down the centerline of damaged sections of levee to protect from future seepage and erosional damages. Staff has been coordinating with the contractor to prepare the slag-cement-cement-bentonite mix design and anticipates construction in summer of 2024.

Two additional efforts are anticipated this summer/fall to further improve levee integrity in and around the UPRR right-of-way; these include (1) installation of TRM adjacent to existing TRM on the external slope of the south levee; and (2) installation of additional rock slope protection on the internal slope of the north levee.

In summary, please be advised that significant construction efforts will be going on from August to November just upstream and downstream of the 22nd street bridge.

b) Annual Workplan and Maintenance Efforts

The Annual Work Plan was submitted to the regulatory agencies in April and the District is completing its typical channel maintenance activities, including channel cross sections, hydraulic modeling, and vegetation maintenance. Pending results from the current modeling analysis, a sedimentation removal effort is anticipated Spring/Summer 2025. Staff is also working on property maintenance activities, including clearing flap gates and addressing any issues that may impact the integrity of the flood control system.

c) Emergency Response Plan

Last season's storms are being used as an opportunity to refine the hydrologic computer model and other predictive tools for flood monitoring. A more comprehensive update of the Emergency Response Plan will be prepared as needed after model updates and construction of the projects.

d) Meadow Creek Lagoon Habitat Restoration Project

The District has revised the Alternatives Report prepared by Stillwater Consulting which details project requirements for restoring habitat in Meadow Creek Lagoon (Alternative 3) and Arroyo Grande Creek Lagoon (Alternative 4). The consultant is currently finalizing the report which will then be distributed to the Science Panel for their review. District staff will then schedule the next Science Panel meeting to discuss the report. District staff will provide updates on the project at the next advisory committee meeting.

e) Other Flood Protection Planning Efforts

District Staff has been coordinating with the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) on pursuing funding under the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program for a project scoping activity that will evaluate feasible flood mitigating solutions for increasing flood protection of properties surrounding the AG Creek Channel. It is anticipated that FEMA will complete their review and select projects to advance by mid-2024.

District Staff has continued their efforts in working with Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) staff on a potential project to purchase and remove vulnerable structures from the flood plain on a voluntary basis under the Emergency Watershed Protection Program. Currently, NRCS is finalizing a Damage Survey Report (DSR) which will be sent to NRCS headquarters for their consideration to fund the project. District Staff is coordinating with one interested property owner. If the DSR is approved and funding is allocated, the project would need to be executed within 220 days of funding distribution.

Staff is coordinating with members of the Arroyo Grande Creek and Watershed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement to look at how to sustainably fund ongoing operation and maintenance of planned flood management projects with source sediment reduction benefits in the Corbett and Tally Ho Creek sub-watershed. This area contributes to the sediment load in Arroyo Grande Creek. The MOU members are also looking at updating the MOU and coordinating with Creek Lands on their Watershed Plan update project.